

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-09 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
ACDE-00 DOEE-00 PM-05 /123 W
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O 021806Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1772
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

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USIAEA

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: IAEA, TECH, PARM, MX
SUBJECT: MEXICAN VIEWS RE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO U.S.-IAEA
AGREEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 192378, (B) VIENNA 05700

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL (A), EMBOFF MET AUGUST 1 WITH
AMB SERGIO GONZALEZ GALVEZ (GG), FONSEC DIRECTOR-IN-CHIEF
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, TO REQUEST CLARIFICATION
OF MEXICAN POSITION RE PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS
(PNES). AFTER REVIEWING PRIETO'S STATEMENTS (REFTEL B)
AND TALKING POINTS OUTLINED REFTEL (A), EMBOFF SAID USG
WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF MEXICAN POSITION ON PNES
AND CONTROL OF NUCLEAR WASTE MATERIAL. AFTER LISTENING
TO EMBOFF, GG PHONED PRIETO TO REVIEW HIS VERSION OF JUNE
19 CONVERSATION WITH USMISOFFS IN VIENNA.

2. FOLLOWING CONVERSATION WITH PRIETO, GG IMPLIED THAT
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING (PRESUMABLY ON
USG SIDE). EMPHASIZING THAT PRIETO IS NOT AN AUTHORIZED
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SPOKESMAN OF THE GOM ON THIS SUBJECT, GG PROCEEDED TO
OUTLINE MEXICAN POSITION AS FOLLOWS:

(A) MEXICO ACCEPTS AND WILL ABIDE BY COMMITMENTS RE PNES
CONTAINED IN ARTICLE I OF MEXICO'S NPT/TLATELOLCO SAFE-
GUARDS AGREEMENT WITH IAEA. WHILE GOM WOULD OPPOSE USG
IMPOSITION OF LIMITATIONS ON PNES, IT WILL AS STATED ABOVE

FULLY HONOR INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS.

(B) AS FOR MEXICAN POSITION ON NUCLEAR MATERIALS PRODUCED IN MEXICO, GG SAID THAT MEXICO IS OF COURSE IN FAVOR OF CONTROL OF SUCH MATERIAL. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT IN EVENT OF AGREEMENT WITH U.S. ON ENRICHMENT OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL, WASTE WOULD BE CONTROLLED BY U.S. AND THEREFORE AS PRIETO INDICATED NOT SUBJECT TO MEXICAN DECISION RE ITS USE. THE SAME SITUATION WOULD HOLD TRUE, HE SAID, SHOULD MEXICO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SOME OTHER LONDON CLUB COUNTRY REGARDING ENRICHMENT OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL BECAUSE SAME RULES APPLY FOR ALL MEMBERS OF LONDON CLUB. IN ANY EVENT, MEXICO IS AGREEABLE TO CLOSING ANY LOOPHOLES ON NUCLEAR WASTE MATERIAL AND, IF NECESSARY, WOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TO ENTERING INTO AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

(C) AS DEPARTMENT AWARE FROM ITS POSITION IN CCD, MEXICO STRONGLY SUPPORTS CONCLUSION OF COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY (CBT) WHICH WOULD INVOLVE BANNING OF ALL NUCLEAR TESTS, INCLUDING THOSE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

3. MEXICO IS SENSITIVE, GG EXPLAINED, TO OVERT USG IMPOSITION OF RESTRICTIONS, INSPECTIONS, ETC. WHICH FOR OBVIOUS POLITICAL REASONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BY MEXICO. FOR EXAMPLE, ON QUESTION OF SAFEGUARDS INSPECTORS, GG SAID THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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HE HAS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT IAEA TEAM INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE INSPECTOR OF NON-U.S. NATIONALITY IN ORDER TO UNDERCUT CHARGES BY POLITICAL OPPOSITION IN MEXICO THAT GOM IS CAVING IN TO USG CONTROL OF ITS NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY.

4. COMMENT: IN ABSENCE OF SCIATT, EMBASSY IS NOT FULLY INFORMED RE ALL THE NUANCES OF THIS COMPLICATED ISSUE, BUT IT SEEMS CLEAR FROM GG'S COMMENTS TO EMBOFF THAT PRIETO'S STATEMENTS TO USMISOFFS IN VIENNA DID NOT REPRESENT OFFICIAL MEXICAN POSITION ON PNES WHICH, BASED ON GG'S STATEMENTS, HAS APPARENTLY NOT CHANGED. LUCEY

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